

INQUIRING SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASING DISABILITY INDEPENDENCE IN MEDAN CITY

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Abstract :

The city of Medan as the capital city of North Sumatra Province which continues to rush in the development process. One of the problems of urban development is how to create a city that is suitable for people with disabilities. One of the sub-indicators for a child-friendly city is the protection of persons with disabilities. This research approach uses a qualitative approach by conducting focus group discussions and in-depth interviews to obtain field data. The results of the study show that people with disabilities need social support to convince them that they can also do what normal people do. Social support is needed, one of which is in terms of carrying out its social role. The government has not been able to provide special social support for people with disabilities by the government, this is very unfortunate considering the needs that the government must fulfill for people with disabilities. In urban areas, social protection for persons with disabilities is still relatively minimal, the government does not yet have special regulations or policies related to disability. The Medan city government in its efforts to provide protection for persons with disabilities only refers to Law no. 8 of 2016 without having more specific derivative rules.

Keywords: *dukungan sosial, perlindungan sosial, disabilitas, kemandirian*

INTRODUCTION

Persons with disabilities according to Law No. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities is any person who experiences physical, intellectual, mental, and/or sensory limitations in the long term who in interacting with the environment may experience obstacles and difficulties to participate fully and effectively with other citizens based on equal rights. As part of mankind and citizens of Indonesia, constitutionally persons with disabilities have the same rights and positions before the law and government.

States are obliged to effectively ensure access of persons with disabilities to justice on an equal basis with others, including through accommodating arrangements relating to procedures and age-appropriateness, in order to facilitate the effective role of persons with disabilities as direct and indirect participants, including as witnesses, in all proceedings, including in the investigation and other early stages. People with disabilities are so honored and valued not only in their personal position, but also in their role as legal subjects, which requires the government

to be more focused and consistent in supporting the implementation of disability-friendly community laws. Justice is certainly not only attached to normal society in general, people with disabilities must also get their rights.

The birth of Law no. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities specifically provides a strong legal basis in the struggle for equal rights for persons with disabilities. Article 53 (1) of the Law on Persons with Disabilities states that the Government, Regional Government, State-Owned Enterprises, and Regional-Owned Enterprises are required to employ at least 2% (two percent) of persons with disabilities of the total number of employees or workers. (2) Private companies are required to employ at least 1% (one percent) of persons with disabilities from the total number of employees or workers. Recognizing that persons with disabilities have limitations according to the type of disability, it is necessary to pay special attention to disabilities so that they can prepare themselves to enter the world of work, both in government and in the private sector.

The government's attention to disability does not stop there. Furthermore, the government issued the Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Regulation No. 4 of 2017 concerning Special Protection for Children with Disabilities. The two regulations issued by the government, both laws and regulations, show the commitment and seriousness of the Indonesian government to respect, protect, and fulfill the rights of persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities are people who experience physical, intellectual, mental, sensory limitations for a long time. Persons with disabilities in interacting with their environment can experience obstacles and difficulties to participate fully and effectively with other citizens based on equal rights.

The condition of disability should not be an obstacle to obtaining the right to life and maintaining a decent life as guaranteed by Law Number 19 of 2011 concerning Ratification of the Convention On The Rights Of Persons With Disabilities. In fact, they are still vulnerable to various acts of discrimination to obtain a decent life, especially basic services. It is known that around 80% of people with disabilities in Indonesia have experienced acts of discrimination (Hidayatullah & Pranowo, 2018), including the tendency to neglect accessibility to basic service rights such as lack of education, health, employment, and mobility.

The city of Medan as the capital city of North Sumatra Province which continues to rush in the development process. One of the problems of urban development is how to create a city that is suitable for people with disabilities. One of the sub-indicators for a child-friendly city is the protection of children with disabilities. Data for persons with disabilities is indeed not accurate, this is due to changes in disability data from health indicators to social welfare indicators, in which persons with disabilities are People with Social Welfare Problems; Need for Social Welfare Services. This condition made the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Joko Widodo, at the time of memorating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities which fell on December 3, 2021, calling on ministries/agencies and local governments to continue to innovate to implement the rights of persons with disabilities by involving families and communities, as well as carrying out integrated residential work. with various social welfare service programs. In addition, the President also said that what must also be prioritized is the facilitation of self-improvement, formal and informal education, access for persons with disabilities to continue upskilling and reskilling, access for persons with disabilities to obtain employment opportunities and entrepreneurship must continue to be facilitated and improved. Not only capacity building of individuals with disabilities, strengthening the capacity of social

institutions, cooperatives, and MSMEs that employ persons with disabilities must continue to be supported and provided with incentives.

METHOD

The research design used a descriptive method with a qualitative approach which was carried out in Medan City, North Sumatra Province. The city of Medan was chosen as the research location with the consideration that Medan City has the highest number of disabilities compared to other cities in North Sumatra Province. Research data obtained by conducting in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. Data analysis is the process of organizing and sorting data into patterns, categories and basic units of description. The process of systematically searching and compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes, and other materials, so that they are easy to understand and the findings can be informed to others. Inductive analysis in qualitative research can be used to see patterns or relationships from widely collected data based on statistical and mathematical data (Sugiono, 2003).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Disability is closely related to both physical and mental health. Disability is a long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory limitation and when faced with various barriers, it can hinder their participation in society on an equal basis with others. According to law no. 8 of 2016, Article 1 provides for a change in the nomenclature from “persons with disabilities” to “persons with disabilities”. In more detail, persons with disabilities are defined as any person who experiences physical, intellectual, mental, and/or sensory limitations in the long term who in interacting with the environment may experience obstacles and difficulties to participate fully and effectively with other citizens based on equal rights. Physical limitations experienced, individuals experience social exclusion, health and safety problems, psychosocial problems such as worry, isolation and dependence. So that people with disabilities are often considered low, do not have the ability so that they get discrimination from the community.

People with disabilities need social support to convince them that they too can do what normal people do. Social support is needed, one of which is in terms of carrying out its social role. They need confidence that they are able to work hard, have a strong belief in personal strength, are able to be honest and responsible. Have strong physical endurance, be diligent and tenacious in working hard and have creative thinking. The most influential social support is social support from family and peers. Furthermore, that one of the main benefits of family and friend support is the adjustment that may be made according to the need for the type of support.

From the results of interviews conducted with the Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection and Community Empowerment of Medan City, it is known that there is no specific or specific social support for persons with disabilities provided by the government, this is very unfortunate considering the needs that the government must fulfill for persons with disabilities. In the Medan City Government itself, especially at the Medan City Women's Empowerment, Child Protection and Community Empowerment services, there are only a few programs that seek to include or involve persons with disabilities so that they can be empowered and to develop their spirit of life, disability itself causes this program to not run well.

From the results of interviews that have been carried out, it was found that there was no specific or specific social support for persons with disabilities carried out by the government, especially the Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection and City Community Empowerment. However, there are several programs that involve persons with disabilities to participate in several activities but the lack of participation from persons with disabilities themselves (Dra. Edliaty, MAP, to the Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection and Community Empowerment of Medan City)

In these conditions, there are several possible reasons that make people with disabilities not participate, namely the lack of information or information that is received quite slowly, or not being able to access vehicles due to existing limitations, or feeling ashamed or not confident because they are afraid of being treated differently from other people. These are some of the reasons why people with disabilities do not participate and participate in various programs. Persons with disabilities do not want special treatment or different treatment for them. According to them, no special treatment or distinction should be made to them.

In addition, social support in the city of Medan that is tangible support or what is commonly called visible support or material support does not have a program that specializes in persons with disabilities, but only general, namely the poor. This program is a form of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) program in the form of assistance in providing basic food materials for those in need, including persons with disabilities.

There is also no specific support information given to them, either in the form of advice, encouragement or useful information to solve all the problems they face. In terms of support that is Companionship Support that they should get, let alone a need that must be implemented, there is also no support even though it is this support that can give them a sense of confidence and a feeling of being accepted as part of a group and a sense of togetherness.

That support is very necessary because with this support it makes them able to fight the challenges they experience so that they grow self-confidence to carry out activities like other normal people. The ability to react appropriately, healthily and satisfactorily to social realities and social environmental situations by changing existing habits in such a way that the demands of society will be harmonious, suitable and accepted by many people.

In an effort to provide support to persons with disabilities and to protect persons with disabilities, by regulation the government has issued Law no. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities. The rights of persons with disabilities are specifically regulated in Article 5 of the Republic of Indonesia Law No. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities, for the sake of their protection and fulfillment in accordance with the specificity of their conditions and needs. "The government has a duty to protect and fulfill the rights of all citizens. The rights of persons with disabilities are no exception. The government has carried out its duties to protect and fulfill the rights of persons with disabilities in accordance with Law No. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities. Fulfillment of the rights of persons with disabilities in aspects of social life must be carried out with full commitment to the principle of protection, as well as paying attention to the rights of persons with disabilities in order to realize an inclusive and disability-friendly Indonesia. (Mrs. Tuti, Head of Social Rehabilitation, Medan City Social Service)

The Republic of Indonesia based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia respects and upholds human dignity. Human rights as basic rights that are inherently inherent in humans are universal, need to be protected, respected, and maintained, so that protection and human rights for vulnerable groups, especially Persons with Disabilities.

To guarantee the fulfillment of the rights of persons with disabilities, the government issued Law Number 8 of 2016 concerning persons with disabilities. The existence of the Law on persons with disabilities is not only a legal for persons with disabilities, but also guarantees that people with disabilities are protected from all forms of injustice, violence and discrimination. Broadly speaking, the Law on Persons with Disabilities regulates the variety of persons with disabilities, the rights of persons with disabilities, the implementation of respect, protection, and fulfillment of the rights of Persons with Disabilities. That way, later the law will strengthen the rights and better opportunities for people with disabilities. Starting from the right to life, the right to get a decent job, better education and easy access to public facilities.

Providing protection for the inherent rights of persons with disabilities is an obligation for the Indonesian state because one of the principles that must be carried out by the Indonesian state as a state of law must be guaranteed protection for human rights (HAM). In urban areas, social protection for persons with disabilities is still relatively minimal, the government does not yet have special regulations or policies related to disability. The Medan city government in its efforts to provide protection for persons with disabilities only refers to Law no. 8 of 2016 without having more specific derivative rules.

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Justice in a state of law is the creation of the value of justice in human rights with legal guarantees of fair enforcement for its citizens where every citizen has an equal position and is entitled to guaranteed protection and legal certainty, it is very important for us to take steps to ensure their views are communicated heard and acted upon. However, in fulfilling the rights for persons with disabilities, there are obstacles in carrying out the process. One of these obstacles is the ineffective fulfillment of rights for people with disabilities, because until now people with disabilities still feel they are being discriminated against, especially Karen before the fulfillment of their rights as persons with disabilities. before the law and equal human rights are the constitutional rights of all citizens, including persons with disabilities. However, in reality there is a lot of discrimination experienced by persons with disabilities in fulfilling their rights, such as restrictions, obstacles, difficulties, reduction or elimination of rights. Therefore, the government should be present to fulfill these rights” (Joli Afriani, Chairman of the Indonesian Association of Persons with Disabilities (PPDI) Medan city)

The fulfillment of social rights protection for persons with disabilities is needed, not only to provide guarantees for their citizenship rights, but also to alleviate the handling of social problems related to the behavior experienced by persons with disabilities, such as to avoid discrimination and to provide justice and equal rights. This is because the basic problem is that people with disabilities experiencing physical, intellectual, mental, and/or sensory limitations in the long term in interacting with the environment can experience obstacles and difficulties to participate fully and effectively with other citizens based on equal rights.

Social protection practices targeting persons with disabilities are generally divided into three models: 1) targeted (eg for groups of poor or severely disabled persons); 2) categorical (eg school-age children and the elderly); and 3) universal, which is usually realized through basic health care husks. Social protection for people with disabilities is important and urgent because people with disabilities bear what is called the extra cost of disability. These costs are understood as relatively more individual needs in the form of goods and services because of their disability. In the context of an individual with a disability having an income that is assumed to be the same as an individual without a disability, their needs and consumption will be greater and thus have an impact on a lower standard of living because they have to fulfill several priority goods or services such as routine health checks, wheelchairs and spare parts, transportation costs, etc.

If you look at the condition of the city of Medan, social protection for persons with disabilities is still far from sufficient. The facts show that the access of persons with disabilities to social protection is very low. Since the Law no. 8 of 2016 concerning Persons with Disabilities was ratified, the percentage of individuals receiving new social protection benefits is still low, as evidenced by the fact that there is still a lot of discrimination and the unequal distribution of rights for persons with disabilities, even those with disabilities are very vulnerable to not benefiting from social protection in the face of various economic shocks.

One of the causes of this condition is that poverty is made as a criterion for receiving social protection benefits. Measures of poverty are usually calculated from the amount of income and ownership of assets. This poverty criterion is irrelevant considering that it is almost difficult to ensure that an individual with a disability is in a stable condition for the rest of his life, especially economically. Therefore, the current social protection discourse is starting to focus on the topic of a life cycle-based approach. By taking this approach, social protection offers a variety of protection schemes according to their "life journey". In other words, the assistance and benefits that people with disabilities can receive can be adjusted to the actual conditions they experience in accordance with their needs and preferences.

In addition, current social protection tends to target households instead of individuals with disabilities. The disadvantage of this approach is that not all individual vulnerabilities and needs can be accommodated, because every person with a disability almost certainly has unique and different needs. Not only a unique case, the weakness of this social protection also lies in the data collection of its beneficiaries. As is well known, in Indonesia as well as in the city of Medan, there is no comprehensive and actual data on persons with disabilities. Almost every institution has its own data, which is often different. The causes for this condition are varied, ranging from the survey officers' lack of knowledge about disability, assessment guidelines that do not explore disability questions, to communication barriers with people with disabilities (related to sign language interpreters, and so on). In the context of Indonesia, people with disabilities also usually live with their extended families who are considered capable so that they do not count as poor households that are entitled to receive assistance. Such a strong stigma

against persons with disabilities also often hinders them in the data collection process because it is difficult to predict.

CONCLUSION

From the research results can be concluded:

1. People with disabilities need social support to convince them that they too can do what normal people do. Social support is needed, one of which is in terms of carrying out its social role.
2. The government has not been able to provide special social support for persons with disabilities by the government. This is very unfortunate considering the needs that the government must fulfill for persons with disabilities.
3. In cities where social protection for persons with disabilities is still minimal, the government does not yet have special regulations or policies related to disability. The Medan city government in its efforts to provide protection for persons with disabilities only refers to Law no. 8 of 2016 without having more specific derivative rules
4. The current social protection also tends to target households instead of individuals with disabilities. The disadvantage of this approach is that not all individual vulnerabilities and needs can be accommodated, because every person with a disability almost certainly has unique and different needs.

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